

REPORT

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3. In the village of Gornji Basic and Donji Basic there are approximately 170 Catholic families. Only four individuals in this community are members of the CPY. Their names are as follows: Mateja Pejic, a 1st Lieutenant in the Reserve and a former partisan; Matej Katic; Djuro Brandic; and Auto Srebric, all of whom are Catholic farmers.
4. In the village of Skardic, in which 49 Orthodox families live, there are nine members of the CPY. Their names and activities are as follows: Stojan Krenovic, Secretary of the local CPY Committee; Dako Arsic, Chairman of the Skaric Collective; Mirko Kojic, UDB agent and Public Prosecutor in Skaric; Stevo Vucenic; Jovo Bogdanovic; Marko Bogdanovic; Ilija Kremenovic; and Stepan Mitrovic, all farmers by occupation and born to the Orthodox faith.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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5. [redacted] the individuals named in the above paragraphs are actually only nominal members of the CPY. They do not adhere to Communist Party doctrine because of any complete understanding of the underlying philosophy of Communism. They have been attracted to the Party because they were poor, uneducated and members of lowest social stratum. The Communist Party offered them the opportunity to be part of the ruling class with all its privileges and its control over local affairs. This opportunity would never have been available to them under other circumstances because of their lack of intellectual ability to hold responsible positions. Hence, in view of this lack of ability, low-level Party members and local Communist officials are disliked as well as feared by the majority of the people.
6. Pavo Nikolic, a former partisan, is Deputy for the district of Bosanski Samac to the Parliament of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina. [redacted]
7. There is no Orthodox Church in the community of Hasic; however, Sveta Lazarevic, the Orthodox priest of the village of Cerkvina, serves Hasic. [redacted]
8. [redacted] the peasants are so oppressed by the Communist minority that they look upon the present regime as the sole enemy of the people in Yugoslavia. As a consequence of this attitude the traditional antagonism among the Catholics, Orthodox and Moslems as well as the Serbs and Croats of Bosnia, has been set aside to form a common front against the present regime.
9. The people are sympathetic to the Western Powers and they hope that in time the West will liberate their nation. Only the Cominformists and those who support Tito oppose the Western Powers because they fear that any change will result in the loss of their present privileged position.
10. [redacted] the general opinion of the people is that in the event of a general war between the Soviet Union and the Western Powers the latter will be victorious. The people of Yugoslavia are not enthusiastic to defend the Tito regime. The peasants believe that, should there be a war, all anti-Communists would take advantage of the situation to liberate themselves from the yoke of local Communist officials. The peasants believe that except for the Communists, all Yugoslav officers and men would fight with enthusiasm against both the Titoists and Cominformists.
11. Regarding United States aid to the present Yugoslav regime, the peasants are of the opinion that the United States has "bought" Tito and that in return the United States will receive military and political concessions and eventually liberate the Yugoslav people.
12. Except for an infantry platoon assigned to guard the bridge on the Sava river, there are no large military units in the district of Bosanski Samac. The headquarters of the District Militia has 25 men. Chief of the ODB is Lieutenant Srecko Sekic and his assistant is a certain Lieutenant Lazo.

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